



The Aero Club of South Africa

Preserving Free Flight

Aero Club Communique # 16 of 2026

Good day to all our Aero Club members, the general aviation community and anyone interested in aviation.

We have news from other Aero Club stakeholders in this edition with a wide spectrum of aviation information.

12-Year Engine Rule

Our important issue remains the promulgation of Part 91 and the related Part 43 CATS with its Appendix 3. As mentioned in previous Communiques, the Minister of Transport must sign the amendments to Parts 43 and 91. These amendments are part of the 36th Amendment to the S A Civil Aviation Regulations which was finally sent to the minister on the 10th of June 2026.

There is a new development that is causing a delay in the promulgation of proposed amendments. In terms of legislation, all proposed legislative amendments have to be scrutinised by the Office of the Chief State Law Adviser (OCLA) to determine if proposed legislation agrees with the South African Constitution. The Chief State Law Advisor's office is a department within the Department of Justice. The DoT had to send the amendments to Parts 91 and 43 to OCLA for their approval before the minister can sign it into law. The amendments are therefore currently with the OCLA.

This is a delay in the process, and it is most unfortunate. But it is a formally legislated requirement and there is not much we can do about this. In a meeting with the SACAA last week and another this week, this development was discussed. The CAA have been in contact with the DoT and the Dept of Justice about the signing of

the amendments. It is my impression that the CAA are as concerned as we are and are seriously attempting to expedite the process.

Another matter that also surfaced in the last week is about a letter sent to the Minister of Transport by the Aircraft Owners and Pilots Association of South Africa (AOPA-SA). In the letter AOPA request the minister to not sign the proposed amendments that will enact the Condition Monitoring Program (CMP) as set out in Appendix 3 of the Part 43 CATS. The gist of AOPA's objection is that there was no meaningful representation by private aircraft owners during the formulation of the proposed amendments and during the CARCom process that approved the amendments for promulgation. We believe that a consultative process was followed by a group of general aviation industry representatives. The Aero Club was only part of a greater collaboration that assisted with and supported the approval of the CMP. The P 91 Collective, The Motorised Aviation and Gliding Association of South Africa (MOGAS) and the Commercial Aviation Association of South Africa (CAASA) all played a significant role in writing the amendment and in the process from meetings in January till the CARCom meeting in April.

It was due to this spirit of cooperation that letters were sent by the P 91 Consortium, MOGAS, CAASA and the Aero Club to the Minister of Transport to assure her of the general aviation industry's support for the proposed amendments to the mentioned regulations. It was mentioned that we do not agree with the stance of AOPA. The Minister was also urged to sign the promulgation of the regulations as soon as possible.

I want to thank the representatives of the P 91 consortium, MOGAS and CAASA for initiating and their cooperation in informing the minister of industry's part in the amendment process.

On the next page there is some additional information about the 36th Amendment from the AIC 18.19 Task Team.

With this and the information above, it is still uncertain when it will be possible for the CMP to commence. Any news will be shared as soon as it is received.



MEDIA RELEASE NO. 20

DATE: 08 JULY 2026

Issued by the AIC 18. 19 Task Team under the collective auspices of the Commercial Aviation Association of South Africa (CAASA), the Aeroclub of South Africa, the Aviation Watch Action Committee, the Aviation Action Group and Concerned Aircraft Owners, Pilots, Engineers and Operators.

UPDATE ON STATUS OF PROMUGATION OF THE 36TH AMMENDMENT OF THE CIVIL AVIATION REGULATION CONTAINING PARTS 91 & 43 TO ENABLE APPENDIX 3

The AIC 18/19 Task Team wishes to provide the aviation community with an update on the status of Amendment 36 to enable SA-CATS 43, which remains awaiting promulgation by the Honourable Minister of Transport.

Following agreement and CARCom procedural completion of collaborative technical work undertaken through the South African Civil Aviation Authority (SACAA), the Civil Aviation Regulations Committee (CARCom), the AIC 18/19 Task Team, CAASA, industry associations, maintenance organisations, aircraft owners, technical specialists, and other interested stakeholders, the amendment was submitted for promulgation.

The Task Team understands that the delay in promulgation is currently attributable to two principal factors.

Firstly, an additional review process has been introduced whereby civil aviation regulations submitted to the Minister for promulgation are referred to the State Law Advisers for consideration before publication. This additional step was not anticipated during the regulatory development process and has extended the timeline for promulgation.

The Task Team is aware that CAASA has submitted several letters to the Honourable Minister seeking clarity on the status of the amendment and requesting an indication of the anticipated timeframe for promulgation. To date, no formal response has been received.

Secondly, the Aircraft Owners and Pilots Association of South Africa (AOPA-SA) has submitted a letter raising objections to the proposed amendment. In accordance with the applicable administrative process, the Minister is required to consider these representations before reaching a final decision on promulgation.

During a recent meeting between industry representatives and the Director of Civil Aviation, it was advised that the SACAA is exploring the possibility of an interim regulatory mechanism, potentially in the form of an exemption or similar legal instrument, to provide temporary relief while the promulgation process is concluded. It was, however, emphasised that no final decision has been made and no commitment could be given regarding the implementation or timing of such a measure.

SACAA SKYwatch magazine

The CAA publishes a quarterly magazine with general aviation information about a wide range of topics. SKYwatch has been published for a few years now. The newsletter can be accessed on the SACAA website by accessing the link below. The latest and previous editions are also available

<https://www.caa.co.za/information-for-the-public/skywatch-magazine/>

CAASA Newsletter

The latest CAASA newsletter, the June 2026 edition, has been circulated. There is valuable information about aviation and about vital aspects of the future of aviation in South Africa. Also, some other thought-provoking information.

The CAASA newsletter can be accessed via the link below at:

<https://share.google/wCUOQ2KiUkjA42XcQ>

Other Aero Club information

The 2026 Aero Club membership renewal commenced on the 1st of December. Please visit the Aero Club website renewal portal at

<https://aeroclub.org.za/membership/>

to renew or to register as a new member.

We list below the information on our Aero Assist system whereby you can easily renew your Authority to Fly.

Also, please see below the contact numbers for the SACAA confidential hazard reporting system and the Aeronautical Rescue Coordination Centre.

Have a good week, be safe.

Regards,

Walter Doubell,

Chairman, Aero club of SA,

9 July 2026

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The Aero Club Membership Support Initiative

ATFs and Licences

The Aero Club has created a Member Support Initiative to assist active Aero Club members in their Recreational Licence & ATF application submissions to the CAA at a cost of R 300 per submission, discounts for multiple submissions and referrals.



AeroAssist

<https://www.aeroassist.org.za/>

AeroAssist is a web based system that can be used by members of Aero Club to facilitate Authority to Fly applications with CAA.



The functionality of the system allows for the upload of all required documentation that must be submitted with the application. Aircraft details and applicable documentation will be saved to a master document set for the aircraft and will be available for subsequent applications; making it easier for the user the next time an application is submitted.

Applicants are kept up to date with regards to application progress via their preferred communication method - sms or e-mail. When the Authority to Fly has been issued by CAA, it will be stored in the system and automatically e-mailed to the applicant. As an additional service, we also send a reminder at the appropriate time when an Authority to Fly is due.

For more information contact The Aero Club of South Africa
(011) 082 1100 or salome@aeroclub.org.za

Sections of The Aero Club of South Africa



Safety Contact Information

The SACAA Confidential Aviation Hazard Reporting System (CAHRS) reporting link:

<https://www.caa.co.za/information-for-the-public/reporting/#cahrs>

ARCC

Aeronautical Rescue
Coordination Centre

SEARCH AND RESCUE

 +27 63 505 4164 or

 +27 63 505 5485

 Report **ANY** Aircraft Accident
Immediately to the ARCC
This includes Paragliders



ARCC
SASAR

